

Amendments To the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device
2 comprising:
3 a fax gateway including,
4 a storage device for storing an e-mail message received from a e-mail sender for
5 transmission to a fax recipient through a packet switching network, the stored e-mail message
6 being converted to a fax document for transmission thereof to [a] the fax recipient having access
7 to a fax device;
8 at least one fax modem device for transmitting the fax document to the fax recipient
9 through a public switching network,
10 wherein reception of the email message in the form of a fax document is not necessarily
11 known to the e-mail sender and the ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device
12 allows a fax recipient to receive e-mail messages by the use of a fax device without requiring
13 computer equipment.

1 Claim 2 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 wherein the storage device further for storing a fax telephone number associated with
3 the fax device of the fax recipient and for using the fax telephone number for establishing a call
4 for the transmission of the fax document.

1 Claim 3 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 wherein the storage device for further storing a time-of-day for specifying a range of
3 time during which the fax document is transmitted.

1 Claim 4 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 further including a server device for storing a fax telephone number associated with the
3 fax device of the fax recipient and for using the fax telephone number for establishing a call for
4 the transmission of the fax document, said server device for further storing a time-of-day for
5 specifying a range of time during which the fax document is transmitted.

1 Claim 5 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 wherein the storage device for further creating a fax cover page for transmission thereof
3 to the fax recipient.

1 Claim 6 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 5 wherein the e-mail message includes an e-mail address and the fax cover page includes a
3 sender field extracted from the e-mail address.

1 Claim 7 (currently amended): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as
2 recited in claim 6 wherein the ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider [devices]
3 device assigns an e-mail address to the fax recipient, the e-mail address being identified by a fax
4 telephone number identifying the fax device and wherein the fax cover page for further
5 including a destination field extracted from the fax recipient e-mail address.

1 Claim 8 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 7 wherein the e-mail message includes a subject field and the ARPA-Internet Network
3 Access/Service Provider device for including the e-mail subject field contents in the fax cover
4 page prior to transmission thereof to the fax recipient.

1 Claim 9 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 wherein the storage device for further assigning a home directory for storage of e-mail
3 messages directed to the fax recipient and upon receipt of the e-mail message, for storing the e-
4 mail message within the assigned home directory of the fax recipient.

1 Claim 10 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 wherein the fax gateway is coupled to the public switching telephone network through
3 one or more telephone lines.

1 Claim 11 (currently amended): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider
2 device as recited in claim 1 wherein the fax gateway is coupled to the public switching telephone
3 network through a digital communications [links] link.

1 Claim 12 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 wherein the fax gateway is coupled to the packet switching network through a digital
3 communications link.

1 Claim 13 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 wherein the storage device is a computer system having a conversion program for
3 causing conversion of the e-mail message to a fax document.

1 Claim 14 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 13 wherein the storage device is a computer system having an e-mail program for causing
3 storage of the e-mail message.

1 Claim 15 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 14 wherein the e-mail program and the conversion program reside externally to the fax
3 gateway.

1 Claim 16 (original): An ARPA-Internet Network Access/Service Provider device as recited in
2 claim 1 wherein the fax gateway further for receiving a reply fax document from the fax
3 recipient, for converting the reply fax document to a reply e-mail message and for transmitting
4 the reply e-mail message to the sender.

1 Claim 17 (currently amended): [An] A method for sending and receiving e-mail messages
2 using a fax device comprising:
3 receiving an e-mail message through a data communications network from an e-mail
4 sender;
5 converting the e-mail message into a fax document; and
6 transmitting the fax document to a fax recipient thereby enabling the fax recipient to
7 receive e-mail messages without access to the data networking network and transmission of the
8 e-mail message in the form of a fax document not necessarily known to the e-mail sender.

1 Claim 18 (original): A method as recited in claim 17 further including the step of receiving a
2 reply from the fax recipient in the form of a reply fax document, converting the reply fax

- 3 document to a reply e-mail message and transmitting the reply e-mail message through the data
- 4 communications network.

- 1 Claim 19 (original): A method as recited in claim 17 further including the step of verifying a
- 2 destination user address for identifying the fax recipient as being a known user.

- 1 Claim 20 (original): A method as recited in claim 19 wherein upon unsuccessful verification of
- 2 the destination user address sending a failed message.

1 Claim 21 (currently amended): A computer readable medium having stored therein
2 computer readable program code comprising instructions for performing the following steps:

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4 receiving an e-mail message, from an e-mail sender, through a data communications
5 network;

6 converting the e-mail message into a fax document; and

7 transmitting the fax document to a fax recipient thereby enabling the fax recipient to
8 receive e-mail messages without access to the data communications network and transmission
9 of the e-mail message in the form of the fax document not necessarily known to the e-mail
10 sender.
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